

REMARKS

FORMAL MATTERS:

Claims 1, 2, 4-12 and 14-45 remain pending in the application.

Claims 1, 2, 4-12 and 14-45 were examined. Claims 1, 2, 4-12 and 14-36 were rejected. Claims 37-45 were allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowance.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 11, 20 and 24 have been amended. Support for the amendments is found throughout the specification and drawings. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims in view of the remarks made herein.

REJECTIONS UNDER §112, ¶2

Claims 1, 2, 4-12 and 14-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite due to confusion with respect to which key was being actuated.

Applicants believe that the amendments to claims 1 and 11 make it clear that it is the first key(s) that is (are) actuated.

REJECTIONS UNDER §102

Claims 1, 2, 4, 11, 12, 14, 20-28, 32 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hoeksma (U.S. Patent No. 6,271,835).

As amended, claims 1, 11, 20 and 24, and their respective dependent claims (claims 2, 4, 12, 14, 21-23, 25-28, 32 and 33) are directed to a keypad (claims 1 and 11) or a method involving a keypad (claim 24) where the keypad provides at least one primary alphanumeric character or symbol and at least one secondary alphanumeric character or symbol where the primary alphanumeric character(s) is (are) different from the secondary alphanumeric character(s). On the other hand, Hoeksma's keypad provides primary alphanumeric characters which are the same as the secondary alphanumeric characters. Accordingly, Hoeksma does not anticipate the claimed subject matter.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of the claims.

REJECTIONS UNDER §103

Claims 5-10, 15-19, 29-31 and 34-36 were rejected under 25 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoeksma in view of Will (U.S. Patent No. 5,825,353).

As claims 5-10 are dependent or have a chain of dependency on claim 1, and as claims 15-19 are dependent or have a chain of dependency on claim 11, and as claims 29-31 and 34-36 are dependent or have a chain of dependency on claim 24, for at least the reasons presented above in response to the rejection of claims 1, 11 and 24 as being anticipated by Hoeksma the subject matter of the rejected claims is not obvious in view of Sorenson et al. As Will is put forth by the Examiner solely for teaching a cyclic redundancy check function, it does not make up for the deficiencies of Sorensen et al. with respect to this rejection.

Accordingly, Applicant requests withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of the claims.

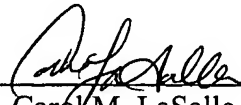
CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number LIFE-052.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: 4/19/04

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